

## Root Problems—Then Have we Confidence.

1 John 3:18-21

**I JOHN 3:18** *My little children, let us not love in word (theory), neither in tongue (speech); but in deed and in truth. (practice and sincerity).*

**19.. and hereby we know that we are of the truth** (definitely know beyond shadow of doubt that we are doing what God says...be sure; understand...on God's side)

**and shall assure our hearts before Him.** (we'll be able to stand quietly with peace in hearts...having full confidence and assurance...in His presence).

**20. For if our heart condemn us** (blame; find fault)

**God is greater than our Heart and knoweth all things.** (If we have a conscience that is bad and is convicting us, God is greater than our heart and probably feels even more strongly about it than us.)

**21. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.** (If our conscience/heart does not accuse us...we have great assurance and boldness before God. We can come to the Lord with perfect assurance and trust.)

**Confidence:** firm belief, boldness, trust, reliance...the fact of being or feeling certain.

When things are not right between us and God, we lose our assurance, our confidence...our reliance on God.

Doubting salvation...

Tangents

Extremes

Worldly practice (hair, drugs, alcohol, sex, problems)

**Root Problems:**

Heart condemners,

Marital relationship killers

Rips in umbrella

**1. Pride** arrogant or disdainful conduct...exaggerated sense of self-worth...

**Prov 16:18** Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

**James 4:6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

**Prov 29:23** A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.

**Psa 10:4** *The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.*

**Prov 11:2** *When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.*

**Manifested:** Not willing to admit wrong...

I don't need help

## 2. Temporal Values

**1 Tim 6:10** *For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

**Eccl 5:10**

## 3. Bitterness

**Heb 12:15** *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;*

**James 3:14 Eph 4:31**

**Key:** clear conscience

### Outward Symptoms

Chronic ill

Rejection

Masks

    Mask of popularity

    Mask of pain

    Mask of peace at all costs

    Mask of control

### What to do if you have been Abused:

1. Acknowledge
2. Grieve
3. Confront
4. Clear conscience

### IE. Ron Houser...My dad abused me...dead...What do?

1. Acknowledge
2. Grieve
3. Write a letter to the deceased..."I was wrong, will you forgive..."
4. Commit letter to God. Ask Him to hand deliver it to your abuser.

### Do you realize that bitterness stops love?

Bitterness and sweetness cannot co-exist.

**James 3:11** *Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?*

## **Outward symptoms of a person who has been sexually abused?**

Craving for sexual relationships  
Rejection and hatred for men  
Overweight  
Homosexuality/Lesbian

### **IV. Moral Impurity**

**Rom. 1:18-28** A man's morality always dictates his theology  
**Prov 23:7** *For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.*  
**Mat 5:28-29** *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart....*  
**Job 31:1** *I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?*  
**Psa 101:3** *I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.*  
**1 Th 4:3** *For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:*  
**1 Th 4:7** *For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.*  
**Prov 6:29** *So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent.*  
**Prov 6:33** *A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.*

**Jn. 4** Jesus approach to woman at well...confront root problem of moral impurity.

One way to spot an immoral person in the church?

#### **Argumentative spirit:**

**Titus 3:10-11** *A man that is an **heretic** after the first and second admonition reject;*  
**11** *Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.*

**1 John 3:18** *My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.*

**1 John 3:19** *And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.*

**1 John 3:20** *For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.*

**1 John 3:21** *Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.*